American Farmer,

AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY

"O Fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint
"Agricolas." . . . . *Virg.*

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Cobbet on Gardening.

On the making and managing of Hot-beds and Green-houses.

Hot-beds.—I am about to lay down rules for persons who can afford to have *cucumbers for March*. This amounts to something little short of *folly* in England: in America, it would be something worse. But hot beds, as things of real use, are more necessary in America than England; because, in the former country, the winter will not suffer to exist in the open air many plants which are wanted to start with the warm sun, and which plants the winter *will* suffer to exist in the open air in England. The American spring bears no resemblance to that of England, which come on, by degrees, from the end of February to the beginning of June; while the American spring cannot be said to be of a fortnight's duration. There is, in fact, no spring; there is a winter, a summer, and an autumn, but no spring; and none would ever have been thought of, if the *word* had not come from Europe along with many others equally inapplicable.

This sudden transition from a winter which not only puts a total stop to, but effaces all traces of vegetation, to a summer, which, in an instant, creates swarms of insects, or warms them into life, sets the sap in rapid motion, and in six days turns a brown rye-field into a sheet of the gayest verdure; this sudden transition presents the gardener, or the farmer, with ground well chastened by the frost, smoking with fermentation, and with a sun ready to push forward every *plant*;—but, alas! he has no *plants!* I know that there are persons who do preserve lettuce, cabbage, and other plants, during the winter, and that there are persons who rear them on hot-beds in the spring; but what I am at, is to render the work easy to farmers in particular, not only as the means of supplying their tables, but the stalls of their cattle and the yards of their sheep and pigs. In the summer (a cruelly dry one) of 1819, who, within many miles of my house in Long Island, had a loaved cabbage, except myself? During June, July, and August, I allowed fifteen a day for my own family; I gave ten a day to one neighbor; to others I give about five hundred perhaps, first and last; and the plants were all raised in *one single light, four feet by three and a half*, on a hot-bed made on the 19th of March.—The hot-bed had six lights altogether, and was about twenty feet long, but the part appropriated to these cabbages was only four feet by three and a half. The plants came out of this bed on the *20th of April*, and were planted three inches apart on another bed, without glass, but covered at night with a cloth. On the *20th of May*, they were planted out in the open ground; and on the *17th of June* we began to eat them. All these cabbages, *Early Dwarfs, Early Yorks, Sugar Loaves*, and *Battersea*, coming in one sort after another, amounting to about *four thousand* in number, stood, when planted out, upon rather less than *thirty rods of ground*; and the earliest sorts, while we were using them so liberally, were selling in New York market at from six to four pence apiece.

To *preserve, during winter*, such a number of plants, or, indeed, *any* number, however small, is a work of difficulty, and is merely *chance*-work after all. Besides, fall-sown plants are not so good as spring sown. They become *stunted*, and they very frequently go off *to seed*, instead of producing *loaves*. However, it is not my business to treat of *cultivation*: I am here to speak of the *making* and *managing* of hot-beds. This must, of course, include a description of the *wood* and *glass*, when formed, into *frames* and *lights*.—But, first of all, I must treat of the making of the bed.

The *materials* of which the bed is to be composed, and the manner of preparing those materials, are first to be spoken of.

Dung of horses, cattle, sheep, or pigs, is used to make the bed of. Either may be *made to do*, with a greater or less degree of care and trouble; but the best possible thing is *dung from the stable*, taken away before it has been *rotted*, short and long promiscuously, but rather *long* than short. If there be a large proportion of short, it may have any litter added to it; any broken straw or hay or corn stalks, in order to make a due mixture of long and short.

This choosing of the materials being a very important point, I shall, in order to make my instructions clear, suppose a case, and such a case as will be very clear to every American farmer.

By the month of March, he has always a heap of dung, which has, from time to time, been thrown out of his stable, during the winter and fall. This is some long, and some short. Let the whole of this (supposing there be *three horses* kept) be taken, and, in addition, a pretty good wagon load of long stained stuff from the cow-yard or sheep-yard. Toss it down in a heap, near where you are going to make the bed. Then begin on one side of it, and take the stuff and begin making a fresh heap of it. *Shake every fork full well to pieces*, and mix well the long with the short; and thus go on, till you have the whole in a round heap rising to a point.

The second day after this heap is made it will begin to send forth steam. Let it remain three days in this state; that is to say, *four* clear days after the day of making the heap. Then turn the heap back again; *shaking all well to pieces*, as before, and bringing to the inside that part of the stuff which was before on the outside of the heap. Let it remain now three clear days after the day of turning. Then turn it again; shaking well to pieces, as before, and bringing again the outside stuff, to the inside. When it has remained two clear days in this state, it is fit to make the bed with.

In the making the bed you will proceed as directed below; but I must first describe the frame and the lights. Were I speaking to persons living in a country where there is no such thing as a hot-bed frame, I should be obliged to enter into a detailed mechanical description. But as frames and lights are to be seen in almost every considerable town in America; and as I have known very few American farmers who are not able to make both with their own hands, without any help from either carpenter or glazier, it will be necessary merely for me to say, that the frame is of the best shape when it is eighteen inches deep at the back, and nine inches deep at the front. This gives slope enough, and especially in a country where there is so little rainy weather. The frame is the wood-work, on which the lights, or glass work, are laid. There needs no more than a good look at a thing of this sort to know how to make it, or to order it to be made. And as it is useless to make a hot-bed without having the frame and the lights ready, I shall suppose them to be prepared. I suppose a *three-light* frame four feet wide and nine feet long, which of course, will make every light *three feet wide* and *four long*; because the long-way of the light fits, of course, the cross way of the frame.

Now, then, to the work of *making the bed*. The front of the bed is, of course, to be *full south*, so that the noon sun may come right upon the glass. The length and width of the bed must be those of the frame. Therefore, take the frame itself, and place it *on the spot you mean the bed to stand on*. See that you have it rightly placed; and then, with a pointed stick, make a mark in the ground all round the outside of the frame. Then take the frame away. Then take some sharp-pointed straight stakes, and drive them in the ground, at *each corner* of this marked out place for the bed, and one or two on the back and on the front side. Let these be about four feet high. They are to be your guides in building the bed; and they ought, therefore, to be very straight, and to be *perfectly upright*. Each stake may be placed about an inch *further out* than the mark on the ground, for fear of having the bed too narrow; though, observe, the bed should be as nearly the same length and breadth as the frame as it is practicable to make it.

In order to begin the work well, it is a very good way to put some boards on their edges, on the ground, at the ends and sides, on the insides of the stakes; so as to have a sort of open box to begin to make the bed in. The eye of a gardener scorns such assistance; but it is very useful to persons unused to the work.

Thus, all being prepared, you begin *making the bed*. Begin taking the dung on the side of your heap nearest to the spot where you are building the bed. Keep taking up clean to the ground. Have shovel as well as fork. Take long and short fairly, and mix them well as you put them in. Shake the stuff in such a way as not to suffer any *lumps*. Shake every straw from every other straw. Let the bed rise in all parts together as nearly as possible. That is to say, do not put much in one part at one time. Beat the whole down with the fork as you proceed. When you have shaken on dung to the thickness of four or five inches, beat all over well again; and so on, till the work be finished. But *mind*, you must be very careful to keep the edges of the bed well beaten; or else they will be more hollow, and will sink more than the rest, and then the earth on the bed will crack in the middle.—Beat them well; keep them well up as you proceed; beat well the sides of the bed, as it goes on rising. Comb the sides frequently down with the spanes of the fork. And, in short, make the sides upright, and smooth and neat as a wall.—As you proceed, measure the *height* frequently, in the different parts of the bed, to see that you are keeping the height every where the same. At last, shovel and sweep up all the short earthy stuff round the bed and where your dung-heap was, and lay it very smoothly on the top of the bed; and make all as smooth and as level as a die with the back of your shovel.

Thus the *bed is made*. Then put on the frame, and fix it nicely. Then put the lights upon the frame. If you finish your bed by noon, the heat will begin to rise by the next morning; and by the noon of the second day after the bed is made, the heat will be up. Poke your finger as deep as you can into the middle of the bed, when you have taken off one of the lights. If the heat be so great as to burn your finger, that is to say, if you cannot endure the heat; then it is too great to receive the earth; but if not, *put on the earth* all over the bed. If the heat be too great, give the bed a little air, and wait till a little of the heat be gone off.

The earth should be dry; not like dust, but not wet. I made provision for my bed, by putting earth in my cellar, in November. It is not much that is wanted. The bed is to be covered all over, about six inches deep. When the earth has been on twenty-four hours, take off the lights, and stir the earth well with your hands; for *hands* are the only tools used in a hot-bed. When you have stirred the earth well, and made it level and smooth, you may *sow your seed*, if you do not find the earth too hot. But, observe the earth is to be level, and not sloping like the glass. The glass is sloping to meet the sun, and turn off the wet; but the earth must lie perfectly level; and this, you will observe, is a very great point.

Next comes *the act of sowing*. The more handsomely this is done, the better it is done.—A handsome dress is better than an ugly one, not because it is warmer, or cooler, but because, liking it better, being more pleased

with it, we *take more care of it*. Those who have seen two or three women together, crossing dirty streets, or in danger from horses or carriages, where the volunteer assistance of men became useful; those philosophers who have been spectators of scenes like this, cannot have failed to discover that humanity, like smoke, is very apt to fly to the fairest; and I much question whether Nicodemus Broadbrim himself, if he saw a pretty girl and an ugly one stuck in the mud, would not give his hand to the former. He would hand them *both* out to a certainty; but he would extricate the pretty one *first*. There is a great deal in the *look* of our gardens and fields; and surely, in so diminutive a concern as a hot-bed, all ought to be neat and regular. Seeds are great tell-tales; for when they come up, we discover all the carelessness that may have prevailed at the sowing of them.

To be Continued.

Rules for the Application of Guano.

We extract the following rules for the application of guano, from a pamphlet published in London, entitled "A Practical Treatise on the Use of Peruvian and Ichaboe Guano," &c., by J. H. Sheppard. After recommending the purchaser to procure guano from such cargoes only as have been analyzed by a competent person, and found to be unadulterated, he says—

"If there are any lumps in the guano, pulverize them through a sieve.

Never mix slacked or unslacked lime with the guano.

In case of mixing bones and guano together for a top dressing, let it be done only two days before applying to the earth.

In preparing for different soils, place a layer of ashes or earth, and one of guano alternately. Turn the whole carefully over, and after properly mixing it together with a shovel, pass it through a garden riddle, and exclude it from the atmospheric air or damp situations, until taken away for use.

Always apply it just before or after rain, avoiding strong windy weather, if possible.

For clay and strong soils—mix wood, peat or turf ashes or sawdust, (if the former cannot be readily obtained,) with the guano, the day before using, sprinkle with farm-yard drainings, and mix thoroughly; pass through a garden riddle, preparatory to their immediate application to the earth.

For gravel, sand, or any light soil—mix with gypsum, strong clay or marl (not calcined,) or good black garden earth; expose this to the sun if not sufficiently dry, so that it will pulverize and pass through a sieve.

For top dressings for lands generally—(apply in April and May)—On clay and strong soils, 3 cwt. of guano, mixed with three times its bulk of ashes or sawdust. For meadow land, or any light soils, 2 cwt. of guano and 2 cwt. of gypsum, or 2 cwt. of guano, and three times its bulk of decomposed soil or good black garden earth.

For top-dressing for wheat, barley, and oats, on light soils—same quantity and mixture as the last named. Apply in May.

It is evident from the trials I have witnessed, as well as from many others, the results of which have been published, that guano *should not be placed in immediate contact with the seed.*

Effects of Guano.—The author of this treatise is indebted to Wm. Skirving, Esq., of Walton, for leave to insert the following letter, addressed to Messrs. Gibbs & Co., inporters of guano, Liverpool:

"I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 12th instant, and in answer to your question respecting the durability of guano as a manure, I have great pleasure in giving you my opinion, which is founded on experiments with the guano I have had from your house during the last three years. I am now thoroughly convinced that guano is not only a most valuable manure for the first crop, but for crops for years after, according to the quantity at first applied.

I have noted minutely the effect of guano on the crops for three successive years, where it was first applied at the rate of 4 cwt. to the acre. The first crop was grass, the second turnips, the third oats, and every year each of these crops was excellent; decidedly better than on the same kind of land adjoining, where I applied 20 tons of farm-yard manure per acre. There is, therefore, no longer any doubt in my mind about the lasting qualities of genuine guano as manure, nor can there be any doubt of its being the cheapest manure we know of; for, in the experiments I allude to, the guano cost £2 8s, and the farmyard manure £10—ten shillings per ton being the common price for the best horse and cow dung here in the spring time.

In this neighbourhood a great deal of guano has been used for top-dressing grass land, at the rate of 2 cwt. to the acre, and in all cases that I have heard of, it has given very great crops the first year; but some of the parties who have used it in this way, complain that they did not see much improvenent in the crop the second year. I should have been very much surprised if they had, for I have many times seen £5 worth of farm-yard dung applied as a top-dressing to an acre, and never could see any advantage of it after the first year. If people want manure to have a permanent effect, let them bury it in the land, and they will have the benefit for years; but if they scatter it to the sun and wind, without digging it in, they will never see its effects after the first crop.

I continue to use guano on crops of all kinds on my farm or garden, and in my nursery grounds, and in a liquid state I have used it in my hothouse and greenhouses, on plants of every kind, with great benefit to all.

In market gardens and kitchen gardens, I consider guano invaluable; for, by proper application of the liquid in the spring months, you not only double the quantity of many crops, but with such as rhubarb, sea-kale, asparagus, &c., you get them much earlier. In short, in all the departments of my business, wehther the farm or the nursery, guano seems now indispensable. Whenever we see a crop not thriving, we apply guano the first *wet* day afterwards, and if the crop is not too far advanced, it generally has a very good effect.

With the assistance of guano, I had plenty of grass to mow last year, from the first week in April until the first week in Decenber, besides a good bit of after-grass for grazing. To conclude, I beg to state, as my opinion, that the discovery of guano, is by far the most importaut of the age, either for agriculture or horticulture, and I, for one, feel particularly indebted to you for its introduction into England."

Mode of Testing the Quality of Guano.—"True guano is the excrement of sea-fowl, accumulating in countries where there is no rain. It owes its virtue as a manure, first, to the presence of ammoniacal salts, and, secondly, to that of the phosphate of lime, or bone earth, derived from the bones of fish. To test for the ammonia, take a spoonful of guano and a spoonful of powdered quick lime, put them in a mortar, and rub them with the pestle for a few seconds. If the guano be genuine, the smell will resemble that of a bottle of salts, and will make the eyes water in the same manner. To test for the phosphate of lime, place a small quantity of guano (say 100 grains) in an iron ladle, or similar vessel, in which heat it red hot over a clear fire for twenty minutes. If the guano be genuine, it will reduce to a white ash, weighing about 35 grains. The ashes of genuine guano will be found to be phosphate of lime, nearly pure. If it be required to prove this, a small bottle of acetic acid, or white vinegar, will dissolve the phosphate, and hold it in solution, leaving the silica and alumina (prabably amounting to 3 or 4 grains,) undissolved. The ashes should be left in the acetic acid for two days, and the bottle occasionally shaken. It is assumed that the guano to be tested, be dry."—*Farmers' Journal.*

Management of Hens.

The Kennebec, Me., Agricultural Society having offered premiums for the best management of fowls, two competitors gave statements of their mode, and as they contain useful hints we copy that of Mr. Child so far as relates to management, and that of Mr. Martin entire. To the former the first, and to the latter the second premium was awarded.

From the Statement of James L. Child.—

My hens laid nearly as well during the winter as in the warm weather. Their habitation was warm, and so constructed as to bring them to the ground, where they found at all times, a good supply of old plastering, ashes, pulverized oyster shells, charcoal, fresh water, once or twice a week beef liver, or some other kind of meat. I feed chiefly upon baked or boiled potatoes, giving their food to them warm in the morning and at night, occasionally dealing to them a little corn or oats, and giving them all the crumbs, and skins, and fragments of the cooked vegetables. To prevent their being infested with lice, about once a fortnight I mixed in dough so as to discolor it, a quantity of flour of brimstone, which is a sure preventive as well as remedy, and may be safely given in small quantities to young chickens, for the same purpose.

It will be seen from my mode of keeping my hens, which average about 25 and 3 roosters, through the winter, that I cannot give the precise cost of keeping, but I am satisfied that potatoes may be given as a general food, and fowls kept cheaper in this mode than in any other—and they will always be ready for the spit, if not stinted in quantity. I find my fowls fat at all seasons.

I estimate that my hens afford me from their eggs, without regard to their meat, a clear profit of 50 per cent. I confine them to their yard, hen house, and barn cellar, during gardening, and to their house and cellar in the winter, and think with that degree of confinement, they lay better than they do when allowed to wander at large. Hen houses and roosts should be kept neat, and often whitewashed, and their nests should always have half an inch or more of ashes or lime on the bottom, under the hay. Broken or rotten eggs should never be allowed to remain in the nests. Dirty water should not be given them. To do well, they require pure water, and all their food fresh and uninjured from taint or fermentation. I estimate that during the year, (deducting the time of their moulting, and inclination to set,) I have got daily, one half as many eggs as I have had laying hens.

Every family can, with a very little trouble, with their flock of a dozen hens, have fresh eggs in plenty, during the whole year, say in all, 2000, and 100 full grown chickens; and of all the animals domesticated for the use of man, (if such be the fact,) the hen is capable of yielding the greatest profit to the owner. It is a pleasant recreation to feed and tend a bevy of laying hens.

Care should be taken to change roosters often, as otherwise the best variety in the world will run out, and cease to be profitable from breeding in: and I feel great confidence that much improvement may be made by due attention to crossing, and in this way some of the evils from breeding be averted. I have stated that I give my fowls meat: this is indispensible if they are not allowed to go at large. If corn is fed out, it should be soaked, and 15 bushels is a fair yearly allowance for 12 hens and a rooster. But they should always have food by them, and after they have become habituated to find enough at all times in the trough, they take but a few kernels at a time, except just before retiring to roost, when they will take nearly a spoonful into their crops; but if they are scantily or irregularly fed, they will greedily snatch up a whole crop full at a time, and stop laying, and not unfrequently engender some fatal disease. James L. Child.

Statement of Mr. Martin, on Fowls.

To the Kennebec County Agricultural Society.—

Gentlemen:—The following is my method of keeping poultry, for which, I want your premium, if you consider me entitled to it.

My family of hens consists of twenty in number, exclusive of old king chanticleer, who rules the roost, cracks the day, and calls to operations. They are of the genuine old fashioned Kennebec breed, which live by eating, and lay for amusement; they generally pay all my *bills* by using their own. I have a room for them in one corner of my barn, warm and comfortable, well furnished with roosts, nests, &c., where all their operations are carried on, although I give them liberty to go into other parts of the barn, and occasionally the liberty of the yard, which is equal in size to that of any honest man or rogue, who has taken the benefit of the poor doctor's oath. Their bill of fare consists of a constant supply of corn in cold weather, and another dish, which they prefer, is made of boiled potatoes mashed up fine, and scalded meal or bran, in the proportion, of three parts of the former to one of the latter. In the summer the corn is shortened, and more of the hen-pudding (as we call it) is supplied. In order that the shell department of the business may be carried on to advantage, I supply them with lime and pounded bricks. I kept my account correct with them, between the first of January last and the thirty-first day of July, inclusive, in which time I received two hundred and fifteen dozens of eggs: these I have sold for eleven cents per dozen, making $23,65

Estimated cost of corn and potatoes, 5,00

Balance in favor of hen family, $18 65

From this sum, take the interest of the capital invested, cost of lime, brick dust, and attendance, and you can have the profits of the brood. Jesse Martin.

Improvement and Profitable Cultivation of Clay Lands.

[The following is extracted from an address before the Columbia County (N. Y.) Agricul. Society, by the President, John P. Beekman :]

"Plants, we well know, derive their nourishment from the soil they stand in, and the air by which they are surrounded. If the soil they stand in does not admit of an easy egress to the roots of the plant, and afford it that food most congenial to its growth, the air by which it is surrounded can do little to bring it vigorously forward.

Clay, mixed, we know, becomes hard by heat; and it is of such quality, that the admixture of water with it makes it adhesive. In summer, therefore, it is apt to become dry and hard, and in spring and fall, or wet weather, too tanacious of water, and holds it too long for plants to thrive in. Our object is, therefore, to prevent it from baking in dry weather, and in wet to permit the moisture to pass through it.

To effect this, open and mix the soil, by putting on what it is deficient in—lime, or sand. Either of these will open the soil, and answer the purpose. Manure will do the same thing, but it will not be so permanent; so will the plowing in of either green or dry chops, or chips, or stones.

A friend in an adjoining town, tells me that he has adopted the practice of flooding a clay lot by a muddy stream, rendered turbid by sand in rainy weather, when it is swollen; in this way he has deposited on it within a few years, hundreds of tons of sand and gravel, and it has since produced him the greatest yield of hay he has ever had.

Another friend tells me, that he has drawn sand from a neighboring hillock, on to a lot of clay land, and in the crops that followed, it produced as good an effect as if the land had been highly manured. A third friend tells me that he summer fallowed a poor, worn-out clay lot, in 1843, intending to manure it and sow it to wheat in the fall. He plowed it, and drew on another portion of it a sufficiency of stable manure. On another portion he left unmanured and unsanded. He sowed the whole to wheat. The crop on the part manured was very good, the part sanded equally good, and on the part to which neither had been applied, the wheat was miserably poor.

These three experiments all tend to the same result, and confirm the theory of the philosopher and of the farmer.

The clay land in Columbia county was known by our oldest inhabitants to yield large crops of wheat immediately after clearing. Indeed, it was thought that none but clay land would produce wheat. The farmers, therefore, who owned other soil, bought these clay lands solely with a view to raise wheat. This was soon after or before the growth of the forest was removed, where the ground for centuries had been annually covered with the leaves of the trees. From these deposites, there were several inches of vegetable mould created, and the sun not having access to the ground to dry out its moisture, and render it compact it was in a fit state to yield large returns to the farmer and it did yield them.

We all heard of the fertility of the western part of the State, and that they raise from twenty to forty bushels of wheat to the acre. This is true: but is it generally known, likewise, that a considerable portion of the land is clay, upon which they raise these heavy crops. The presumption is that they will continue to have good crops of wheat as long as this vegetable mould lasts, and no longer. Exhaust or remove this vegetable mould, and their clay soil will be as hard and as stiff as ours. They put on wheat after wheat; our fathers did the same, until they had exhausted the fertility, and left nothing but the residuum of the virgin clay behind; and this soil constitutes the clay fields we see around us. We have long felt and now feel the evils of this kind of farming by our progenitors, and would be happy to apply the remedy.

The remedy, in part, I have suggested in my previous remarks upon the deficiency in the soil for the speedy growth of plants; but it is not always easy or practicable to draw on lime, sand or gravel. In suggesting that remedy, I will state my own experience in reclaiming clay land, and the methods I have used to effect it, and leave you to judge how far it can be advantageously practiced. I have owned a farm of 200 acres, for, say, 15 years. My practice has been to stock it with a few cattle, but feed sheep on it principally—to plow only enough of it to employ two hands during the summer; not to sell any hay from the farm, but to make all manure I could upon it. By this course of husbandry I find myself rewarded, because I have received more in immediate profits than interest on the investment; and I have been enabled to manure the meadows at least three times, and several of the pasture lots. I found that I could, in most seasons, raise good crops of oats, but for the last three years I have suspended. in a measure, the oat crop, and gone back to wheat. It is well known that a clay soil is not congenial to the growth of corn, and that rye grown upon it does not make good flour. When it can be manured, it is better adapted to the growth of all the grasses, wheat and oats.

Knowing this, we must follow out the indication of nature, and act accordingly. The practice I have adopted has been this: To manure an old, worn-out clay lot, summer-fallow it and plow it repeatedly, and sow it to wheat early in the fall, with grass seed. For three successive seasons, I have succeeded not only in my wheat crop, but the grass has done remarkably well the following year. Now, what prevents us from carrying out the practice? If we can reclaim a lot, can we not by persevérance reclaim a whole farm? And what, let me ask, can be more profitable husbandry than a good wheat crop followed, either by hay or pasture? If, then, carting on lime, sand, gravel, or dung, one and all—remembering, however, that manure must be one of the ingredients to make the improvement permanent—what is it to prevent the industrious and intelligent farmer from making our worn-out clay lands our most profitable farms. Again: sow it early—sow it in August—give the plant plenty of time to cover the ground well with its foliage before winter sets in. This will afford protection to its roots, and we will not hear so many complaints about your wheat being frozen out on the clay. I will add one word more on the subject of sowing grass-seed. I sow timothy and clover—three times the quantity of the first to that of the last. My observation thus far has taught me that the earliest sown grass-seed does the best. I have sown in September, in October and November. The first did well, the second not so well, and that sown in November did very badly. I could add more on this subject, but I trust I have said enough to be understood. The suggestion is sufficient—your own good sense will readily supply all that is wanting."

From the N. Y. Tribune.

Farmer's Club—Tuesday, December 3.—*Mr. Travers* of New-Jersey, in the Chair. A series of resolutions were offered by Mr. *Pell* to the memory of the late *Samuel Stevens*, Esq. who was an active member of the Club.

The subject before the meeting was the preparation of "*Muck*" for manure. Before proceeding to discussion, Gen. *Tallmadge* presented two specimens of corn, raised on the farm of P. S. Van Rensselaer, Dutchess Co. one kind being the eight rowed yellow flint corn. This yellow corn is a favorite in Dutchess, being dense in the ear, the stock raising to about the middle height, ripening early, and good for this latitude, and from the weight and hardness valuable for shipping. The specimens of corn presented to the Institute at its late fair, and in fact most agricultural products which are sent in, are not described with sufficient care; he hoped the hint would be taken, and specimens that were sent be accompanied with an accurate description of where and how they were raised, what was their special value, &c. A gentleman, whose name we did not hear, said, in relation to "muck" that the Western prairies, the lands on the borders of the Caspian, and other similar formations, might be considered original depositions of "muck" upon the soil, and nature would do the rest.

Gen. *Tallmadge* remarked, that gardens required one sort of cultivation, farms another; that what might do perfectly well in the former would not be applicable in the latter. We must add something to the cultivatable soil: and with regard to "muck," if the mode that had been recommended should be pursued, it would be far too expensive for the common farmer. As an experiment, it might do to dig out the muck, dry it, cart it to the barn yard, combine it with lime or animal manure, shovel it over, let it remain a couple of years, and then cart it out and spread it upon the fields; but for the farmer it would be to spend as much in labor as the value of the muck as a manure would finally come to. He recommended to cart the muck at the time of summer droughts directly upon the land, spread it, then sow freshly slacked lime upon it, and turn it under at once; it would hardly decay of itself, and one third of the expense attending the old method would be saved. We must compromise between the best mode and doing nothing at all.

Mr. *Pell* said he had tried "muck" on an exhausted soil, with good results. It must be taken from a swamp, where there was not running water. His method had been to drain the land in the summer drought, to dig out the muck, pile it near the pond, and mix it with lime, and put it on the land in winter. However, he considered it better to cart it into the barn-yard, and let the cattle work it over. He thought that he got out 350 horse-loads of muck, at an expense of twenty dollars.

Dr. *Gardner*, in answer to the question as to the best method of composting, said that if "muck" was composted dry, well broken, and occasionally moistened with urine, the greater part of the Ammonia would be retained; a portion might rise into the air in the form of Carbonate of Ammonia, but the greater part would be converted into Crenic, Apocrenic, and Nitric-acids, and if we add lime and ashes, nearly all the Ammonia will be oxidized.

If composted in a moist or wet state, more of the Ammonia will be lost.

Mr. *Holland*, of Long Island, said in respect to the raising of "oats," Mr. Pell having exhibited an excellent specimen raised on his exhausted land, after the liberal use of muck,—that he had this year obtained the premium for oats, which weighed forty-one pounds to the bushel, when his neighbors could only get twenty seven by steeping his seed (one bushel and a half) in a solution of 1½ pounds Sulphate of Ammonia to about 5 gallons of water. In respect to "muck," he had tried it on three acres of light warm loamy soil, much exhausted; he put it on in the fall dreughts, ten two-horse wagon loads to the acre; at the first frosts spread on ten pounds of Lime to the acre, and ten pounds of Sulphate Ammonia, with some little Sulphate of Soda—From this land he obtained thrirty bushels of Spring Wheat to the acre. He throws up ridges of swamp-muck in the fall, and when the ground freezes cairs them off. He throws it into his hog-pens, with cornstalks, sea-weed, and other refuse, then puts it into his house for manure, and applies Lime, sometimes Sulphate of Ammonia or Sulphate of Soda, and has tried Guano.

Mr. Townsend gave some interesting statements in respect to the use of "Muck" about peach trees, which produced excellent results.

Mr. *Towsend*, of Long Island, uses peat instead of He throws it out, then dries and houses it. He has a 'muck.' gutter behind his cow-stable, into which he has peat wheeled; it absords the deposition from the barn, and is then put out on the land, and equal to animal manure.

As to "muck," great care should be used in selecting from ponds, and it is worthless unless mixed with lime and allowed to be *sweeten.ch* He has tried the method proposed by Gen. Tallmadge, and found it useless. But for every farmer in the immediate neighborhood of New-York, city manure is to be preferred; he gets this from stables for furnishing them with straw. He has used poudrette, and can draw out at once sixteen dollars worth—equal to sixteen loads of street dirt.

Winter Protection for Strawberries.—A writer in the Boston Cultivator says he has tried covering with manure, leaves, sea weed, boughs, and "all other kinds of loose covering;" but they did not answer. The leaves would blow off, and mice would get under and destroy the plants. He recommends cleaning the beds well from weeds, and about the last of October or first of November, put on from one to two inches of rich loam or old compost, made with muck, and a small quantity of manure, such as has no seeds, or weeds and rake it in equally, being particular to have the plants covered so as only to present the centre leaves; this protects the roots and tops, and in the spring the beds and borders are all ready for them to grow, and will not need any cultivating until the plants are in blossom, and until the middle of May, and then with a fork about six inches wide, with three round stiff prongs 10 inchies long, blunt and round at the end of the prongs, stir the soil.—*Albany Cultivator.*

Mr. Pell. of Ulster, county, N. Y., has an orchard of twenty thousand trees, bearing the Newton pippins.

THE AMERICAN FARMER.

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PLASTER AS A MANURE.

If any one were asked, what substance next to *Lime* had produced the greatest melioration in the soil of America, candor would force him to say that Plaster had. It is well known too, that it has produced quite a revolution in the agriculture of France, England and Germany. But although few have tried it but to experience its benefits, and although much of it is used in our country, and the use of it is on the increase, still its use and increase holds no just proportion to what its merits as a fertilizer of the soil would indicate that they should be. For a long series of years the opinion obtained among farmers, to considerable extent, that it was of no utility on lands in the vicinity of salt water rivers; but this opinion, formed from erroneous premises, is pretty generally exploded, if it has not become obsolete. We believe that it sprung, in the first instance, from its use, without obvious beneficial effects, upon the chalk soils of England bordering on the ocean; but the *why* of its inefficiency on such soils was discovered by chemical analyses to arise from the fact that plaster, or the Sulphate of Lime, abounded in those soils prior to the application; and hence its inertness was directly traced to the fact of its pre-existence in the soil, and not to its proximity to salt water. So it is with salt. This mineral when used on lands too remote from salt water to be affected by the sprays operates as a good manure, when used either in composts or sown broadcast, but if applied to lands within the range of the influence of salt sprays, it is of no avail, and for the simple reason, that the mineral had already been supplied by another agency. *Lime* too, if applied to a soil where it already abounded in abundance, would be found to be of no service, as the plants can only take up a certain portion, when held in solution by the rains, and any quantity beyond what is necessary to afford the appropriate supply of stimulus, or nutriment, whichever it may be, or perhaps, both, is expletive, and if it do not do harm, can be of no service. Plaster, salt, and lime, have each and all, in their turn, been condemned by superficial reasoners, who have drawn their conclusions from isolated cases of experiments as injudiciously tested as senselessly condemned, and yet the brightest agricultural intelligences of the age, and general experience, concur in the opinion, that when used with discretion, they are all admirable manures. What their specific actions are—whether the one or the other be stimulants, alteratives, promoters of digestion, absorbents, neutralizers, or nutrients, must, to a certain extent, remain as matters of speculation; for even by the aid of the most careful analyses of both them and their products, no settled or well defined opinions can be formed of the peculiar province which they exert, or the *modus operandi* by which their *mysteries* are wrought; for, of a certainty, they do each produce mysteries, as astonishing as those which marked another era of the world.

If we give to a horse, who has already gormandized to his fill, a feed of oats, the probability is, that he will refuse them; but this is no reason why we should condemn that grain as food for horses; neither is it fair to reject Plaster, Salt, ar Lime, because, when applied to lands where they superabound, they do not manifest their improving properties. If the horse to which the oats were offered had been hungry, he would have devoured them with an admirable relish, so, also, had these minerals been presented to soils in need of them, their good effects would have been apparent.

When we took pen in hand, our intention was, simply to introduce the article which we will subjoin upon "*Gypsum as a manure*;" but as we have digressed, and in our ramble touched upon *Salt* and *Lime* also, we shall quit these, and confine our succeeding remarks to Plaster alone.

For a long series of years, plaster was considered merely in the light of a *stimulant*—that it produced the growth of plants in a similar way to that by which alcoholic spirits produced plethora in the human system—by unnatural excitement—and the necessary consequence of this belief led to the opinion, that although the application of plaster produced temporary benefits to a few crops, yet that it ultimately injured lands to which it was long, or in large quantities applied—that the land became plaster-sick. This plaster-sickness, we apprehend was produced in the same way that gluttons take away their appetites—by over feeding. This *stimulant-theory*, of course, rejected all idea that plaster could be considered in the light of a nutritive manure, and held that it was a mere *exciter*. And in aid of this *view*, the smallness of the quantity used—a bushel to the acre—was adduced, as a proof positive of its beauty and truth. Now, we confess that we have long since rejected this theory as unsound, unsatisfactory and unphilosophic. All analyses have proved, that vegetables, to which plaster had been applied, contained traces of the mineral—some more, some less, but all some. Then, in considering and reflecting upon this fact, the question involuntarily occurred to our mind; if Plaster affords no nourishment, how is it, that these plants were enabled to take it up thro' their feeders, and assimilate it in the general mass of their constituent elements. And the only rational answer to which our mind could arrive, was, that if it had not been of that character, it would have been rejected by the plants, and never could have been incorporated so intimately, as all experience proved it had been.

The latter labors of scientific men prove, that it is not only food of itself, but that Plaster is a purveyor of food; that by its powers of absorption, attraction and retention, it appropriates to itself from both earth and air, those rare and volatile gases, which form the very nourishment on which plants most delight to feed. Let us hear what *Liebig* says upon this branch of the subject:

"The evident influence of *gypsum* upon the growth of grasses—the striking fertility and luxuriance of a meadow upon which it is strewed,—depends only upon its fixing in the soil the ammonia of the atmosphere, which would otherwise be volatalized, with the water which evaporates—The carbonate of ammonia contained in rain water is decomposed by Gypsum, in precisely the same manner as in the manufacture of Sal Ammoniac. Soluble sulphate of Ammonia and Carbonate of lime are formed; and this salt of ammonia possessing no volatility is consequently retained in the soil. All the gypsum gradually disappears, but its action upon the carbonate of ammonia continues as long as a trace of it exists." * * * * *

Again:

"It is quite evident, therefore, that the common view concerning the influence of certain salts upon the growth of plants evinces only ignorance of its cause. The action of gypsum really consists in their giving a *fixed* condition to the nitrogen,—or ammonia, which is brought into the soil, and which is indispensable for the nutrition of plants."

Plaster, according to Liebig, attracts not only from the atmosphere the ammonia, which is precipitated with the rain and snow, retains it in the earth for the use of the growing plants, but prevents the escape of the same fertilizing gases consequent upon the decomposition of vegetable and animal manures, and feeds them out as they may be needed by the necessities of the plants. By adopting this theory, which is beautiful and more than plausible, we behold the wisdom and mercy of God, in furnishing to man, at a moderate cost, an agent for preventing the waste of the riches of earth and air, that fruitfulness may abound. We say that there is more than plausibleness in this theory—nay, that there is truth in it. Unless its agency extended beyond itself, how else could we account for the astonishing effect produced by the very small quantity of a bushel to the acre—however *stimulative* the Carbonate of Lime and Sulphuric acid may be, of which plaster is composed, unless it possessed other powers, it never could exert such potential influence, as it does, upon vegetable growth.

Having premised thus much, we present to our readers the following article, which should command attention:

Gypsum as Manure.

[We take the following extracts from the pamphlet noticed in our last, from which we copied some rules for the application of guano, by J. H. Sheppard, London.]—*N. E. Farmer.*

Gypsum, or the real sulphate of lime, is considered by all scientific chemists and agriculturists a most powerful agent as manure. I beg to quote an extraordinary instance of its effects, on its first introduction into Norfolk, in 1816. When I was attending Mr. *Coke's* sheep shearing, at Holkham House, and conversing with him in the park, he complained to me that a portion of his estate, near Wells, (about six miles distant,) was a very light sandy land; and, although he treated it in every respect like the rest of his farm, with plenty of manure, he was unable to produce more than six or eight bushels of grain per acre. I recommended him to apply gypsum, and he desired me to forward him ten tons, for a trial. When I again called on him, (three years after) he said the land before mentioned, *by the application of gypsum*, instead of producing six to eight bushels of grain per acre, averaged 32 bushels of American barley, 36 of Chevalier barley, and 20 of wheat, per statute acre.

I beg further to observe, that gypsum, applied upon light or blow-away sands, in liberal quantities, two or three times, turning over the soil and harrowing in, causes a body, and consequent adherence in the soil, which forms a basis or groundwork, so that it will ultimately retain manures bestowed upon it, which previously were washed into the bowels of the earth, without the least possible benefit to the crops. I can only repeat, that the application of gypsum to sand land, if of genuine quality, and systematically worked into the land, would prove the greatest benefit to the agriculturist.

For Potatoes.—The following results of gypsum on potatoes are furnished by the Rev. T. Skepworth, of Yorkshire:

"In a plot of land which had last spring been richly manured for early potatoes, we apportioned three rows for the following experiment: "When the sets were cut, they were immediately dipped into powdered gypsum; they were then placed in the trenches, when a small portion of gypsum was sprinkled upon each set. The trenches were then filled up with earth, and a little more gypsum sprinkled the whole length of the rows, as a top-dressing. I am now convinced the top-dressing is much better applied when the tops are about two or three inches out of the ground, and very wet. This finished the process, in which, as nearly as we could calculate, we used about fifteen bushels of gypsum per acre. I must here state, that the gypsumed and ungypsumed rows immediately adjoined each other; but that if, as to the precise position of each, in point of free exposure to sun and air, there was any difference, it was in favor of the ungypsumed rows.

On taking up, and carefully weighing off the produce of the gypsumed rows against the same number of ungypsumed, we had an extra produce from the gypsum of full 24 sacks, of 12 pecks each, per sack.

Second Experiment.—A plot of old swarth, was, last spring, broken up for potatoes. The greater part of the crop grew most luxuriantly; but the remainder, from being planted near the roots of some fruit trees, exhibited, in the spindled growth of their tops, a striking evidence of the exceeding poverty of the soil. The grower determined upon a trial of gypsum on this part, of which he applied a top-dressing. A gentle rain falling a few days afterwards, which put the gypsum into action, the effect was the astonishment of all who saw it—the gypsum seeming to impart an almost magic energy to these poor and puny tops; and in defiance of the extremely exhausted condition of that part of the soil upon which the experiment was tried, and the consequent backwardness of the crop, the gypsumed potatoes were amongst the first in the plot.

The Turnip Fly.—A small farmer, in my own parish, on whose statement I have the fullest reliance, sowed, this year, some Ruta Baga, upon a piece of rather strong land. No sooner had the plants arrived at their second leaf, than they were so voraciously attacked by the fly, that great numbers of the plants seemed entirely destroyed, and the rest to be rapidly following. There seemed, in fact, no

prospect of saving the crop. Having, however, been informed that it was my opinion gypsum would destroy the fly, this person immediately top-dressed the crop, at 8 bushels per acre, (more, perhaps, than needful,) and the consequence was most striking—the sudden and entire disappearance of the insect, and a most vigorous growth of the plants.

N. B.—The top-dressing for the fly, and indeed all top-dressings, should be fine gypsum, and applied either between showers of rain or in the early dew of the morning.

Clover.—Of this plant, gypsum is the indispensable, natural, and most favourite food, and in which it delights to luxuriate. Upon a measured portion of young clover and other spring seeds, on a light gravelly soil, R. F. Long, Esq., of Brancroft, this year sowed gypsum as a top-dressing, in showery weather, at the rate of five bushels per acre. Comparing the produce and growth of this portion with the remainder of the field, he expresses himself thus: 'You have often seen a particular spot where a manure heap has been laid—its thickening and towering above everything around it: now this is exactly what your tenant's gypsum has done.'

Oats.—Mr. E. Jefferson, of Low Burnham, drilled in some oats upon a black moory soil, with a compost of ashes, rape-dust, and soot. Immediately adjoining the compost oats, six rows were drilled in with gypsum alone, as an experiment. The gypsumed oats were pronounced by all, in less than a month, to be from 30 to 40 per cent. in advance of the compost, and the farmer afterwards informed me that, on harvesting them, they were decidedly the better crop, having stronger straw and larger ears.

Every one extols, and justly so, the manure of the farm-yard; yet how few attempt to husband it as they ought. 'Far-fetched and dear-bought' as some of our manures are, the farmer continues to buy, whilst he daily witnesses under his own nose the loss of most valuable manure. Ammonia is constantly rising from the stalls and dung-heaps which might be *fixed* by gypsum. The urine is allowed to run anywhere but into reservoirs or tanks, and is soon dried up and lost.

GUANO.

For the American Farmer.

Mr. Sands:—In your paper of the 27th ultimo, Mr. *Francis Finch*, of Plum Point, has favored the public with a communication upon the subject of the price of Peruvian Guano, in reply to an article published in your paper of the 30th of October, under the signature of "*A Friend of American Agriculture.*" It is not my purpose to undertake a defence of the latter writer, or to enter into a minute reply to Mr. Finch, but merely to note certain gratuitous assertions of his, in such a way as I may think they demand, and state such facts as appear to me to have a bearing upon the subject matters at issue.

Mr. *Finch* insinuates, that the object of the writer appears to him to be "to prevail upon American Farmers to buy of that gentleman"—Mr. George. Such inuendoes are always as discourteous as they are unfair; for no man has a right to impute to others motives of a sinister character, except when borne out by the most positive testimony, and I am sure, that the writer of the article upon which Mr. Finch comments, has no more interest in the sale of Mr. George's cargo of Guano, than has the Dey of Algeirs, except so far as a disinterested feeling in behalf of American husbandry may influence his opinions and wishes in the premises. As a well informed Agriculturist, entertaining a just appreciation of the fertilizing properties of the *Peruvian* Guano, having satisfied himself of its virtues, and having no selfish motive to be subserved, he spoke, doubtless, his sincere sentiments, without, in the least, desiring to exaggerate the value of the guano, that Mr. George might be aggrandized, or with the most remote wish to *depreciate* it, that he himself, might become a purchaser at a reduced price. I am very certain that "A Friend to American Agriculture," in all he said, was solely influenced by the generous motive of benefiting the Agricultural community, and that he does not deserve the imputation cast upon his motives; and I am equally certain, that he is fully as competent as his assailant to judge of the value of Guano.

If it would not be too close a copy of Mr. Finch's example, of indulging in the ascription of improper motives to others, which I will not, as I eschew all such practices, I might allege, that if Mr. F. had any object, it was to prevent Farmers from purchasing from Mr. George, and that he was probably goaded by disappointment in not being able to fix a price, himself, upon the property of another. Now this would be a very uncharitable inference, and still it is quite as legitimate as the one to which I have taken exception.

Before I pass to other matters, I will state that Mr. George is the only person in the United States, except his agents, who have any *Peruvian* Guano for sale; then why, I ask, should any one, for the consideration of a half cent per pound, undertake to prevent the introduction among American argiculturists, of a *fertilizer*, which the experience of South America for centuries, and of England for several years, justify competent judges to place at the head of the list of enrichers of the soil. Such cavilling about so *small* a difference in price, is, to say the least of it, too small an affair to occupy the mind of an enlightened Agriculturist, and all liberal men will say, that the part of patriotism would be to *encourage*, rather than discourage its use, as the half cent per pound, is but as a grain of sand to a mountain, when the melioration to be produced in our land by the application of Guano is considered.

Mr. Finch quotes the English price of Peruvian Guano at £10 stg., but I defy him to shew, that such quantities as he wanted to purchase, can be bought in England at any such price. The prices quoted in the English papers, are for quantities ranging from 50 tons to a cargo. When a vessel arrives at Liverpool, the *cargo* is frequently sold on board before the ship enters the dock, thus saving to the importer all dock charges. Small vessels haul alongside and take off the quantities purchased for other ports. The part, if any, of the cargo which is warehoused at Liverpool, or London, is retailed out in such quantities as are required by purchasers—BUT THESE RETAIL PRICES ARE NOT QUOTED in the news-papers. The quotations referred to in Wilmer & Smith's and other papers, are the *wholesale* prices of *quantities* such as no one American, or English Farmer, would purchase. By referring to papers which occasionally quote *retail prices*, it will be found, that these prices range from £13 to £15 per ton, according to quantity: say a single ton, is sold in our currency, estimating the pound sterling at $4.80, at $62.40: to this add the *duty* paid in the United States, 20 per cent, and you will find there is little if any difference between the prices for similar quantities, in either country. But in addition to the duty paid in America—(and there is no duty on the article in England)—there are other charges, I apprehend, attending the cargo of Peruvian Guano now on sale by Mr. George, which does not attach to the article in England, and for the reasons I have before explained. Mr. George has had his cargo put into bags of convenient size, at an expense of some four hundred dollars, while it cost as much more in labor for filling and conveyance to the warehouse. The freight alone cost $15 per ton. I mention the price of freight to show, that it alone constitutes nearly one-fourth of the entire price asked, and not as an *extra* charge, because freight has to be paid whether the article be carried to England or to America.

As Mr. Finch no doubt wishes to buy, and to buy at English prices, I think I may safely venture to suggest to him, that if he will agree to purchase on board the vessel, on arrival, 100 tons or more, I have no doubt the agent will agree to sell it at the lowest quoted English prices for *genuine Peruvian Guano*, with the duty *here* added. But in making this suggestion, I wish it to be distinctly borne in mind, that I mean the price of the *genuine* article, not that of the made up stuff, which the English dealers prepare to *cheapen* prices and *defraud* farmers.

I find this paragraph in Mr. Finch's communication:

"The truth, sir, appears to be, that the monopolists shipped to this country a cargo of Guano, and said to the consignee—"we consign this cargo to you with this simple instruction, sell it as quickly as you can, but you must fix upon such a price for it as shall cover the charge of your own commission, and all other expenses, and remit 12 pound sterling to us."

Now Mr. Finch does not say, that these English "Monopolists" wrote these instructions to Mr. George, but he would *seem* to wish the reader to *infer* that such was the case; for he has arrayed his sentence in all the identity of fact, by giving to it the *marks of quotation.* Unfortunately, however, for the success of Mr. Finch's fable, there is not the slightest foundation for the inference which it appears he would have the reader to draw. In reading Mr. F's feigned quotation, one would be disposed to conclude, that that gentleman *had seen the letter of Instructions* from the Company to the Agent; but it so happens, that *no such letter was ever received*, and that he, Mr. Finch, never saw any letter whatsoever. To be sure, he does not say that he did, but nine out of ten readers, mistaking his *quotation marks* for *assertion*, would rise from the perusal of his communication under the belief that he had not only seen a veritable letter, but copied a part for the benefit of the American public.

With regard to *instructions*, it may be well to remark, that the only one received (as I understand the fact) from the owners, left the Agent at *discretion* as to price, but apprised him, that the trade could not be followed up, unless a price *equivalent* to the *then* current price in England was obtained, which was *then* £12 sterling; and an entire cargo could not have been bought at much, if any less. At the time the retail prices for 1, 2 or 3 tons, were 14 and 16 shillings per cwt., or £14 a £16 per ton, according to distance from the port of arrival.

Courtesy forbids me to prefer the charge, or I might be tempted to allege, that Mr. Finch's chief object appears to be to compel the Agent here to *retail* his Guano at the *cargo* prices obtained in Liverpool, or indeed that it would suit his views of propriety, to have a few hundred weight delivered at Plum Point at the same rate.

The Agent some weeks since—before the Plum Point Manifesto—reduced his prices, as follows:

For 5 tons	(2240lbs. each)		$60 per ton
3 "	do.	do.	61.60 "
2 "	do.	do.	64.40 "
1 "	do.	do.	67.20 "

which prices, adding the *duty* of 20 per cent. and the extra charges before alluded to, will be found to be *quite as low*, if not lower, than similar quantities of the same *quality* of Guano can be purchased at in England.

I presume that Mr. Finch will not deny that the small parcels of *Peruvian* guano, which have of late found their way into the United States, were sold at from 50 to 75 per cent. *more* than is asked now by the Agent for the sale of the present cargo. And, perhaps, he does not know, that the people of New England have been paying $60 per ton for *African Guano*, 50 or 60 tons of which were lately sold, in one day, at *Providence*, *Rhode Island*, at that price. Should Mr. F. require proof of this he can be accommodated.

With Mr. Finch's appreciation of the virtues of *African* Guano, I have nothing to do, for as there is no disputing about tastes, neither should there be about opinions, but despite Mr. Finch's eulogium, I believe that I have higher authority than he for affirming, that it is as inferior to the *Peruvian*, as was the *counterfeit* king of Denmark to the real one—and that the comparison drawn, of the relative value of the two kinds by "A Friend of American Agriculture," was true both in letter and in spirit.

A FRIEND TO AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.

Hog Raising.—The low price of Pork has made the farmers in Illinois abandon Hog raising, and we mention the fact, because a large part of the supply of pork in former years was derived thence by the Atlantic States—and from the representations we have seen, Illinois, the present year, has not raised enough for her own consumption.

Sheep on the Prairies.—The Westeren Cultivator, printed at Indianapolis, Indiana, says that up to the 25th of August, 25,000 sheep had passed through that place on their way to the Western Prairies. In the same paper, we find a communication from Geo. Flowers, Esq. of Albion, Ill., in which he states that he has just returned from a three months tour in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, whither he had been to select and purchase eighty of the best rams and 3,600 ewes. He urges the formation of a "Western Wool Growing Company," by whom a permanent system of improvement in sheep, might be undertaken, which would prove alike profitable to the Company, and beneficial to the public. The subject is worthy of consideration.—*Albany Cultivator.*

Value of the Sugar Beet.—Mr. A. C. Holt, in the Detroit Farmer, gives the following method of obtaining vinegar from the sugar beet.—

"The last season I grated about a bushel of the sugar beet to a fine pulp, and pressed the juice therefrom, of which I obtained six gallons. I put the same in a vinegar barrel, which was entirely empty, and in less than two weeks I had as good and as pleasent vinegar, as I ever obtained from cider, and was equally as strong and clear."

On Lime as a Manure.

[The following article, which we take from the London Gardeners' Chronicle, contains some very judicious counsel, and we think it worth reading by all who have not learned so much but that they can still desire to learn more.—*Ed. N. E. Far.*

Lime is considered by many to act as a *universal* medicine, to be administered whether the field require it or not. I have known cases where it was to supercede draining, farm-yard manure, and bones; and have seen its use so abused, in the neighborhood of Winfield, as to cause the cessation of growth. I recollect meeting with a farmer, in the spring of this year, who was applying three cart-loads of quick lime to an acre of marsh meadow land, in order to kill the reeds, and found it impossible to persuade him that there could be no cure for his land but thorough draining. We shall endeavor to show when lime is useful to land, and in what cases it would be hurtful.

We only know of one plant—the *Salsola soda*—which does not contain lime in combination with organic acids. The fact alone is sufficient to account for its presence in all fertile soils, and for the necessity of supplying such lands with lime as may be deficient in it. Schroeder found 33.75 grains of carbonate of lime in the ashes of 32 oz. of the grain of oats. In soils lime generally exists as sulphate (gypsum,) phosphate (bones,) carbonate (chalk,) and humate, the latter more especially in peaty soils.

To lands where lime is deficient, it should be applied in its caustic state, as quick lime, and that for the following reasons:

1. Because it would be too expensive to supply the deficiency in the shape of carbonate of lime, where it has to be brought from any distance, inasmuch as chalk contains 45 per cent. of carbonic acid, an amount nearly equal to half the carriage, without contributing any serviceable matter.

2. If the land be rich in organic matter, as in peaty soils, the express purpose of applying lime in a caustic state is to destroy the vegetable matter—an effect produced by lime in the same manner as it is effected by burning it.

3. It destroys coarse grasses, as Couch-grass, and when mixed with the scourings of ditches and sods of worthless grass, makes an excellent top-dressing for grass lands.

4. It kills seeds and insects, for which reason it is highly important to mix newly-upturned clay, intended for agricultural purposes, with quick-lime, in order to destroy the seeds.

5. If the land produces a sour grass, lime will neutralize the acids, and render the herbage sweet and palatable.

6. Its capability of solution; and lastly, the great chemical effect it produces on the inorganic ingredients of the soil, in rendering potash soluble, and converting poisonous proto-sulphate of iron (green vitrol,) into an innoxious compound.

These are the most important reasons. The addition of quick lime proves of most importance on heavy clays, which it renders porous and friable. Where lime is wanting in the soil, the fertility of the soil is increased, and superior crops produced by its application. The time for applying lime is not immaterial. It should never be placed on land immediately after manuring with a compound containing ammonia, as farm-yard manure, guano, &c., as it would expel the ammonia. Lime and dung should never be heaped together, nor should land be dunged till about two months after it has been limed. If the chief purpose for which lime is applied, be to destroy vegetable matter, the land should be dry. The immediate effects will be slow, but a little rain will produce the effect far more quickly than if the soil be very wet. In reclaiming lands this should be well recollected. If, however, it be our object to prepare land before the sowing of a crop, the liming should take place in autumn, because the effects of lime are not instanteneous. Supposing a piece of arable land be overrun with Couch grass, which we wish to eradicate, and taking for granted such land has not been limed, we should treat it thus: The land should be covered immediately after harvest with a thin layer of quick-lime, spread as evenly as possible; then it should be plowed in, laying one furrow each way on the unplowed land, and let it lie till frost is out in the spring; then plow the whole in a contrary direction, leaving the land in this state till after spring sowing, when the lime and the weather will have taken such effect on it as to make what is left of the Couch easily got out by using a large harrow.

It is not well to apply large quantities of lime at a time, intended to last for a number of years, but it should be our endeavor to put the land into such a condition as to be able to afford sufficient lime for plants, and to keep up this quantity either by small yearly additions, or by large additions every four or five years; otherwise considerable loss takes place. Caustic and slacked lime are soluable in water; a large quantity will therefore be removed from the reach of the roots of plants by falling rains. Much of it will again be brought up by the plow, but much will go beyond its reach. If the land is not drained, the loss will be greater than otherwise Supposing the land to be quite wanting in lime, a larger quantity than usual may be supplied; in such a case, 30 bushels of quicklime, well mix-with the upper soil, would be ample, but more than this is generally applied without injury. The waste should be annually supplied; the fertility of the soil will thus be more effectually kept up than by the general methods. The quicklime should be broken as much as possible, evenly spread over the land, and intimately mixed with the upper soil.

The effects produced by an overdose of lime are sometimes irreparable. On wet and undrained clays, an overdose of quick lime causes a chemical combination of the lime with sand, clay and water. A species of mortar is formed, and the land hardens, so that neither the roots of plants nor rain-water can penetrate it. Dry and sandy soils are rendered too porous by an overdose of lime. Supposing, however, that such effects do not take place, it is certain that the action of lime on the inorganic ingredients of a soil, is to render soluble many salts well adapted for the nutriment of plants. It may, therefore, call forth increased fertility, at first, but unless the land be plentifully manured, it will be miserably impoverished. It must be recollected that lime is no substitute for any other manure, and that farm-yard manure must be used at proper intervals; for, because lime is required by plants, it does not follow that they can thrive without ammonia or potash. An overdose of lime may call forth another class of weeds to succeed those which it destroys. A fertile soil should contain at least one-fourth per cent. of lime; it may, however, contain more.—*A. J. Bernays, Derby.*

Pitt's Corn and Cob Grinder—Value of Cob Meal.

H. A. Pitts, after experimenting more or less, as the spirit of invention moved him, during the past year, has at length completed a corn and cob grinder, and put it in operation in Winthrop village, where he resides. As we stated sometime ago in the Farmer, it is so small and compact that, with the exception of the hopper, you may put the whole of it into your hat. It is a terrible *cob eater*, tho', if it is so small. We have had ears of corn "*chawed*" up by it after the rate of a bushel in four minutes, and this too, when it had ground so much that his teeth were dull, and the bands too loose to give him "top speed."

The corn was green and damp, being a lot of "pig-corn," sorted out from the best. Mr. Pitts has it so arranged that he can crack up your corn, without the cob, to any required fineness, from corsea samp to *superfine bannock*. But what's the use of grinding up the cobs?

Why not keep them to kindle your fire with, smoke your bacon, or make manure? Why, let us see what they are worth for horse or cattle feed. If we can prove to you that the cob meal is worth as much, *bushel for bushel, as oats*, you will allow it is an object to save them.

Every body who has fed a horse or an ox much with "*corn nubbins*" in the fall of the year, has noticed that he will eat the whole cob and all, and seem to prefer it to shelled corn. We once owned a horse that would n't eat corn, any way you could fix it, unless it were on the ear, when he would "*munch*" the whole up together very greedily. Every one knows too, that when we feed an ox or cow on this, a considerable portion of the kernels of the the corn pass through whole, undigested, and of course are the same as so much corn thrown away. Now for some proof that the cob part of the meal, is equal to the same measure of oats. We find in the New England Farmer the following statements, quoted from the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository of 1823. It is a communication from Mr. Rice, of Shrewsbury. He is a stock raiser, and a man of great experience in feeding cattle. He gives an account of using cob meal, as feed, as follows:—"The second year, if I mistake not, in which I made use of cob meal, I thought I would try an experiment by feeding one ox with corn and oats ground, the other with corn and cobs, having a yoke of oxen so evenly matched that no one who viewed them was satisfied which was the best. Accordingly I fed as above. The cob is computed to make a little more than *one third*; therefore I mixed the other with one third oats, as was my former mode. I gave each ox an equal quantity at a time, except the one which had corn and oats sometimes became dainty and would not eat his allowence, while the other kept an equal course. The allowence of both was a little over three pecks per day. When taken to market and killed, they weighed twenty-eight hundred and a half. The one fed on corn and oats weighed half a hundred the most; while the one fed on corn and cob meal was considered half a dollar per cwt. the best beef. The one fed on corn and cob meal had 163 lbs. of tallow, the other 162 lbs." From this experiment it will be seen what the comparitive value of cob meal is.

We have been informed by a farmer's wife, that the meal from the cob, ground alone, when sifted fine, will make very fine "flap Jacks." We have also found by experiment that hens are very fond of corn and cob meal. Our hens would eat that which Mr. Pitts ground for us, as greedily as they would corn, and this is the only way we know of to get cobs down a hen.

Here, then, is a chance for farmers to make a great saving. If the cob meal amounts to one third of that made by corn and cobs ground together, then the farmer who raises an hundred bushels of ears of corn and throws away his cobs, is equally as imprudent and foolish as he who raises *thirty-three and a third bushels of oats and throws them all away, when he has harvested and thrashed them.—Maine Frrmer.*

Wool-Growing in North Carolina.— We are pleased to learn that a lodgement is about to be made which will soon test the peculiar suitableness claimed for the Western (the mountaneous) portion of North Carolina for the bussiness of the wool-growing. A gentleman of much experience, after having travelled over the Western States in search of a good locality for rearing sheep, had his attention drawn to our western counties by the correspondance which had then recently passed between our talented Representative, Mr. Clingman, and Mr. Skinner, of the Post Office Department at Washington, long known for his ardent devotion to the agricultural interests of the whole country. After personal reconnoissance, this gentleman decided to remove his family and locate himself for the present in Buncombe county, in the persuasion that *health*, climate, cheapness of land, and all other considerations taken into view, that county possessed superior advantages, and accordingly his flock of sheep, purchased chiefly in Western Pennsylvania, *is now on its way* to Ashville, as also his regular bred Scotch shepherd and shepherd's dogs, thoroughly trained to the business of driving and guarding flocks.

If nothing happens to paralyze this interesting and to us new branch of American husbandry, we may, as many good judges anticipate, look to it as a great resource for a large portion of the State, which has been hithero comparatively unproductive; and, looking yet further ahead, when the chief material of woollen manufactures come to be abundant, as cotton is now near at hand, it will naturally follow that the boundless water power in the region referred to will be applied to the manufacture, both of wool and cotton; as well as of *iron*, which abounds in some of the western counties. In short, nothing would seem to be wanting but industry in *diffusing a knowledge* of the vast resources of the western counties, to secure their being made available for the support of a numerous population of the most desirable character, and for the production of great wealth.—*Raleigh Register.*

Preservation of Pumpkins.—This fall let every farmer gather as many of his best matured pumpkins as will suffice to supply his stock with a mess daily through the winter, and deposite them carefully in a close and secure repertory, according to the following succinct and definite rules: 1st, lay a stratum of butts of straw from the thrashing floor, one foot thick; on this stratum deposite another of pumpkins, and cover them carefully with another layer of straw, and so to the end of your heap.

In this way, pumpkins may be preserved most of the year, as sweet and fresh as when taken from the field. Try it, friends, and not leave every thing to be discovered by accident, as is the case with experiments in agriculture generally.

GUANO—After our paper was made up, we were favored with the following extract from the Sheffield & Rotherham Independent of 16th ult. just received per steamer Caledonia, just arrived at Boston from Liverpool:

"*Adulteration of Guano*—Four vessels sailed recently hence (Liverpool) for Guano stations, ballasted with gypsum or plaster of paris. This substance is intended for admixture with guano, and will enable the parties to deliver from the vessel a nice looking light colored article. Parties purchasing Guano are very desirous of having it delivered from the vessel, as they believe they then obtain it pure. The favorite material for the adulteration of guano at the present moment, is umber, which is brought from Anglesea in large quantities. The rate of admixture we are informed is about 15 cwt. of umber to five cwt. of Peruvian Guano, from which an excellent looking article, called *African* Guano is manufactured."

[We have given the above paragraph from a Liverpool paper, in order that our Agricultural readers may see the necessity of using the utmost caution in purchasing Guano. They ought not only to look to the character of the parties from whom they purchase, but also to have the guarantee of analysis by some respectable and competent practical Chemist.—*Ed. Amer. Far.*]

Cooking Food for Swine.—Dr. Lee, in an article on pork making in the last N. E. Farmer, says :—"From some experiments of my own, and considerable research into the published results of the experience of others, I am satisfied that ten bushels of boiled potatoes, thoroughly mixed with the pudding that can be made from three bushels of corn or peas, will make as much pork as twenty bushels of potatoes, and six bushels of corn or peas fed raw."

PERUVIAN GUANO.

The subscriber, agent for the Peruvian Company, has received per ship Orpheus, 400 tons of Peruvian Guano—and will hereafter be regularly supplied with the article by the Company, *who alone have the right to export it.*

Orders for any quantity, (not less than one ton) will be supplied at the following rates,—

From 1 to 5 tons,	$3	per 100 lbs.
" 6 to 10 "	$2,87½	" "
Above 10 tons,	$2,75	" "

A Pamphlet upon the nature, properties and results of this Guano, will be issued from the American Farmer Office, in a few days free of charge.

Applications post paid, will meet with prompt attention.

SAML. K. GEORGE,
sep. 5 No. 2 German st., Baltimore.

POUDRETTE

Of the very best quality for sale. Three barrels for $5, or ten barrels for $15—delivered free of cartage by the New York Poudrette Company, 23 Chambers street, New York. Orders by mail, with the cash, will be promptly attended to, and with the same care as though the purchaser was present, if addressed as above to

D. K. MINOR, Agent.

A supply now on hand from the N. York establishment, by the single barrel, or larger quantity. For sale by

SAML. SANDS,
je 19 office of the Farmer, Baltimore st.

HARVEST TOOLS.

In store and for sale by J. S. EASTMAN, Pratt street, near Charles, Wolf's very superior Grain Cradles, (such as I have been selling for the last five years;) Grain and Grass Scythes; steel and wood Hay Forks; an assortment of Hay Rakes, Horse Powers and Threshing Machines, of different patterns, for 2 and 4 horses; Wheat Fans, plain and expanding Corn and Tobacco Cultivators, Corn Planters, my superior Straw Cutters, of all sizes, with wood and iron frames. Also a large assortment of PLOUGHS, of all sizes, and other farming implements. May 2

CLAIRMONT NURSERY,

NEAR BALTIMORE.

AS the time is at hand for transplanting TREES, the subscribers hereby inform their friends and the public that they have on hand a good assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubbery, &c. Also a large addition of the new and finest ROSES, together with Tulips, Crocus and Peonie Roots, very fine of different colors, Asparagus Roots one to two years old, all of which they offer on reasonable terms. Catalogues furnished gratis by applying to the subscribers, or R. Sinclair Jr. &c. 62 Light street, Baltimore.

oc 30 2aw12t SINCLAIR & CORSE.

GROUND PLASTER.

The subscriber is now engaged in the grinding of Plaster of Paris, for agricultural purposes, and would respectfully inform Farmers and dealers that he is prepared to furnish it of the best quality at the lowest market price, deliverable in any part of the city, or on board Vessels free of expense, application to be made at the Union Plaster Mill, near the Glass House, or at the office No. 6 Bowly's Wharf, corner Wood street. P. S. CHAPPELL, or,
an. 3 WM. L. HOPKINS, Agent.

REAPING MACHINES FOR 100 DOLLARS.

Suited to ground cultivated in corn lands as well as fallow. This is my latest improvement. Every objectionable trait in my former machines have been removed in the construction of the present one. It is warranted to cut as much in a day, and with far greater ease to both horses and men, than any I made previous to 1841. I have delayed to announce this until I had ascertained the facts from those who used them in the last harvest. For the satisfaction of the doubtful, I refer to Wm Butler and Jacob Staley, of Shepherdstown, Va. My large Machines with forward wheels, are made as usual at 170 dollars.

Machines of medium size, will be made to order at 140 dollars. Corn Shellers and Huskers, at $35, Corn and Cob Crushers, improved at $25a$35.

OBED HUSSEY.
Baltimore, Nov. 20, 1844. no 20

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY,

Manufactured by Robt. Sinclair Jr. & Co. No. 60 Light street, viz:

Corn Mills, price	$40	most approved)	8 to 12
Sinclair & Co.'s Corn and Cob Crushers,	30	Subsoil Ploughs,	8 to 12
Baldwin's do.	65	Other kinds, embrac'g about 25 sorts, and suited to every variety of soil,	2.50 to 13
Goldsborough's Corn Shelling & Shucking Machine,	35	Corn & Tobacco Cultivat.	5 to 6
Hand do. assorted,	15 to 17	Harrows,	6 to 16
Vegetable Cutters,	20	Grain Cradles & Scythes,	4 to 5
Threshing Machines,	40 to 60	Plough and Machine Castings, per lb.	4 to 5
Horse Powers,	75 to 100	Fanning Mills,	25 to 30
Cylindrical Straw Cutt.	28 to 45	Horse Hay Rakes,	11
Do. extra large,	75	Grindstones, on friction rollers,	13
Common Straw Cutters,	5 to 12	Lime Spreaders,	30
Botts & Green's do.	25 to 30		
Pierce's and Dolphin self-sharpening Plows, (new &			

Ploughs and Machinery REPAIRED on reasonable terms. Also
GARDEN AND FARMING TOOLS—of every sort.
GARDEN AND FARMING SEEDS " "
GARDEN AND FARMING BOOKS " "

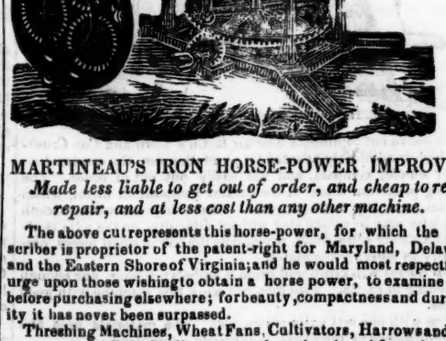
☞ The agricultural community will find it their interest to examine our stock of Implements, Seeds, &c. We promise purchasers polite attention and lowest market prices. R. S. Jr. & Co.

FOR SALE—4 full bred DURHAM BULL CALVES, from one to three months old—sired by an imported bull Magnum Bonum—who took the premium at the two last cattle shows. Enquire of

June 5 SAMUEL SANDS.

NEALE & LUCKETT, *No.* 3, *Light street wharf,*

Have received from a gentleman in Maryland, a supply of FLY PROOF WHEAT for Seed, which they offer for sale at $14 per bushel. This is a very superior wheat, weighing from 60 to 65 pounds to the bushel, yielding largely upon lands of tolerably quality, safe from the ravages of the fly, and making a rich and very nice flour. It is of German origin, and a different species from the *Mediterranean wheat*, which it is believed does not yield good flour. Persons wishing to supply themselves with seed, are desired to call and examine the sample now on hand. A few hundred bushels more can be obtained from the same source, if early application be made. Aug 28



MARTINEAU'S IRON HORSE-POWER IMPROVED

Made less liable to get out of order, and cheap to repair, and at less cost than any other machine.

The above cut represents this horse-power, for which the subscriber is proprietor of the patent-right for Maryland, Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and he would most respectfully urge upon those wishing to obtain a horse power, to examine this before purchasing elsewhere; for beauty, compactness and durability it has never been surpassed.

Threshing Machines, Wheat Fans, Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order at the shorest notice.

Castings for all kinds of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr. Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment. R. B. CHENOWETH,
corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, or No 20 Pratt street. Baltimore, mar 31, 1841

BALTIMORE MARKET, Dec. 10.

Beef, Balt. mess,	8a	Butter, Glades, No. 1,	13
Do. do. No. 1,	7a	Do. do. 2,	7a11
Do. prime,	5a	Do. do. 3,	5a7
Pork, mess	9	Do. Western 2,	6a
Do. No. 1	8½	Do. do. 3,	5a6
Do. prime	8	Lard, Balt. kegs, 1,	6½a7
Do. cargo,	a	Do. do. 2,	none
Bacon, hams, Ba. lb	6a7½	Do Western, 1,	a6½
Do. middlings, "	4½a5	Do. do. 2,	5a5½
Do. shoulders, "	4½a5	Do. do. bls 1,	6a6½
Do. asst'd, West.	4½	Cheese, casks,	6
Do hams,	5a7	Do. boxes,	5a8
Do. middlings,	a5	Do. extra,	12a15
Do. shoulders,	3½a4		
COTTON—			
Virginia,	9a10	Tennessee, lb.	
Upland,	6½	Alabama,	11a12
Louisiana,	11½	Florida,	10a12
North Carolina,	10a11	Mississippi	
LUMBER—			
Georgia Flooring	12a15	Joists & Sc'ling, W.P.	7a10
S. Carolina do	10a12	Joists & Sc'ling, Y.P.	7a10
White Pine, pann'l	25a27	Shingles, W. P.	2a9
Common,	20a22	Shingles, ced'r,	3.00a9.00
Select Cullings,	14a16	Laths, sawed,	1.25a 1.75
Common do	8a10	Laths, split,	50a 1.00
MOLASSES—			
Havana, 1st qu. gl	30a31	New Orleans	31a
Porto Rico,	29½a	Guadaloupe & Mart	26a28
English Island,		Sugar House,	28a36
SOAPS—			
Baltimore white,	12a14	North'rn, br'n & yel.	3½a4½
brown & yell'w	4½a5½		
TOBACCO—			
Common	2 a 3½	Yellow,	8 a10
Brown and red,	4 a 5	Fine yellow,	12a14
Ground leaf,	6 a 7	Virginia,	4 a 9
Fine red	6½a 8	Rappahannock,	
wrappery, suitable		Kentucky,	3 a
for segars,	8a13	St. Domingo,	13 a11
Yellow and red,	7a10	Cuba,	15 a38
PLASTER PARIS—			
Cargo, pr ton cash	2.75a	Ground per bbl.	1.12a
SUGARS—			
Hav. wh. 100lbs	9a10.50	St. Croix, 100lbs	7.00a8.00
Do. brown	a7.50	Brazil, white,	a
Porto Rico,	5.50a6.40	Do. brown,	
New Orleans,	5.55a	Lump, lb. c.	
FLOUR—We quote			
Superfine How. st., from stores, bl			$4.25.
Do. City Mills,			4.25.
Do. Susquehanna,			
Rye, first			3.75a
Corn Meal, kiln dried, per bbl.			2.25
Do. per hhd.			11.75
GRAIN—			
Wheat, white, p bu	95a100	Peas, black eye,	50a55
" best Va red	90a	Clover seed, store	$4.06a
" ord. to pri. Md	80a91	Timothy do	2.a2.25
Corn, white,	37a38	Flaxseed, rough st.	1.18
" yellow Md.	39a40	Chop'd Rye, 100 lbs.	1.25
Rye, Md.	67a	Ship Stuff, bus.	20a
Oats, Md.	26a27	Brown Stuff,	15a
Beans,	101	Shorts, bushel,	10a
FEATHERS—perlb.			31a
COFFEE—			
Havana,	7 a 8	Java, lb.	10 a12
P. Rico & Laguay.	5½a6½	Rio,	6½a7½
St. Domingo,	5¾a 6	Triage,	3½a 4½
CANDLES—			
Mould, common,	a10	Sperm,	30a31
Do. choice brands,	10½	Wax,	60a65
Dipped,	a 9		

Tobacco—As usual at this season transactions are very limited, being confined to small parcels of the good & fine descriptions. Infer. and com. Md. tobacco $2a3; mid. to good 3.50a$5; good 6a7.50; fine 8a14; some parcels new Ohio find a ready sale; we quote as before, viz: com to mid. 3a4 50; good 5a6; fine red and wrappery $6. 50a10; fine yellow $7 50a10, and ex. wrappery 11a13—The inspect's are 387 hhds Md; 136 Ohio; and 16 do Ky. total 539 hds. The samples of new crop Ky. are found to be of unusual good quality, particularly that of Mason county This description always finds a ready sale here, and the freight by the B. & O. Rail Road is only 70c per 100lb. frm Whe'ling.

Cattle—600 head offered Monday, 480 of which were taken by packers & butchers; price ranged from 1.75 to 2 75 pr 100 lbs on hoof, equal to 3 50a5 25 net; a lot of 47 head very superior cattle averag'g 1400 lbs each, was taken for packing.

Hogs—Live are scarce and selling at $4a4 12 pr 100lbs

Wheat 86a91 for prime red.

BEMENT'S AMERICAN HOTEL, *No.* 100 *State Street, Albany,*

Is now open for the reception of company, having undergone a thorough repair and complete renovation from the cellar to the attic. It has been newly furnished throughout, and in quality of beds, cleanliness, and airy rooms, will now compare with any other establishment in the city.

In location, this House has many advantages, being situated in the centre, and on one of the most beautiful streets in the city; within a few moments' walk of the Eastern and Western Railroad Depots and the landing of the Steamboats; about midway between the Capitol, Public Offices, and the Banks, Post Office, and the business parts of the city, renders it very convenient for the man of business, as well as gentlemen of leisure.

The subscriber places much reliance on the countenance and support of the AGRICULTURISTS throughout the Union, who may visit the city, and pledges himself to spare no exertions to render their stay agreeable, should they favor him with their company.

Three Hills Farm will be carried on as usual, under my own superintendance, by a careful manager, and the breeding and rearing improved stock will be continued as heretofore.

Albany, July, 1844. C. N. BEMENT.

GRAIN CRADLES! GRAIN CRADLES!

We mean what we say when we assert that A. G. MOTT, corner of Ensor and Forest sts. Old Town, near the Bel-air market, is now making up, and has for sale, the very best and cheapest article of the kind in the Baltimore market, and no mistake. Try them je 19

BERKSHIRE BOAR.

A fine Berkshire Boar, 12 months old, of pure stock, for Sale—Price $10—He is a very fine animal.

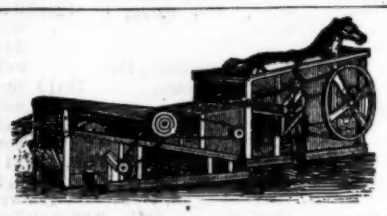
Also some half-bred Berkshire Pigs—Apply at this office.

GUANO.

The Agent for the sale of the genuine Peruvian Guano, in the U. S., offers the same for sale at prices stated in his advertisement in quantities of ONE TON AND UPWARDS—Farmers and others wanting LESS than a ton, can be supplied by the subscriber at $3¼ per 100 lbs. deliverable at the warehouse, in any quantity, or shipped on board any vessel in the port, drayage added. Samples can be examined at our office. This may be depended upon as the genuine article.

Those wishing to procure the African Guano, can be supplied at the lowest market price. Address

SAMUEL SANDS,
de 11 at the office of the American Farmer.



WHITMAN'S THRASHING MACHINE & HORSE POWER DEPOT, No. 2 Eutaw st., opposite the Eutaw House, where the subscriber now offers for sale all his new improvements in the Thrashing-machine and Horse-power line, consisting in part of his new SEPARATOR, patented March 20th, 1844, which thrashes and cleans the grain at one operation, and is considered the greatest labor saving machine, and of the most value to the farmer of any machine ever invented in this country.

NEW STRAW CARRIERS—These machines thrash and separate the grain from the straw in a rapid and perfect manner, and are highly approved by all.

Improved CYLINDER THRASHERS—Warranted to thrash faster than any other kind of thrashers that can be produced.

Improved HORSE POWERS, on the rail-way principle, for one or two horses. These machines are durable, possess double the power of the common kind, and occupy about one eighth of the room. All of the above are made of the best materials, by experienced workmen, and warranted. I will furnish a man to go out with them and set them up in any part of this State, if desired.

As this is no humbug, all who feel an interest in agriculture are respectfully invited to call and examine for themselves.

All orders addressed to the subscriber, Baltimore city, will meet with prompt attention. EZRA WHITMAN. Jr.
jy 17

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

The above reward will be paid for the delivery, to Dr. Woodside, at the Baltimore and Ohio rail road depot, of a fine DURHAM HEIFER, between two and three years old, of fine size and in good condition. This heifer was brought from Philadelphia on the steamboat, and escaped, it is supposed, from the boat after her arrival in Baltimore, on Saturday, the 19th of October last. Her color is principally white, but with spots of roan interspersed over the body, and a strawberry roan head and neck. She is very gentle, and had on, when lost, a leather halter, fastened together with iron rivets; and likewise a piece of new grass rope tied round the neck.

no 20 t CHARLES B. CALVERT.

FARMERS! EXAMINE FOR YOURSELVES!

The well selected stock of Implements belonging to JAMES HUEY & CO. No. 7 Bowly's wharf, Baltimore. Our stock consists of a large lot of PLOUGHS, SHEARS, POINTS, and CULTIVATORS, which we will sell low to suit the times—among which rank the economical WILEY, and the MINOR & HORTON PLOUGH of the N. York composition metal and manufacture—the share has a double point and edge, equal to two shares and points. We keep on hand all kinds of PLOUGHS, premium CORN SHELLERS, HAY & STRAW CUTTERS, Corn & Cob CRUSHERS, Horse RAKES, Corn and Tobacco HOES. ☞Farmers and Planters on the Eastern and Western Shores may send their orders with confidence, as they will be attended to with promptitude. We also keep GARDEN & FIELD SEEDS. Thankful for past favors, we hope to merit a continuance of the same. Agents for the above implements,

S. L. STEER, Market st. near the corner of Paca, Baltimore
E. & W. BISHOP, Bel-air market, Baltimore. fe 28

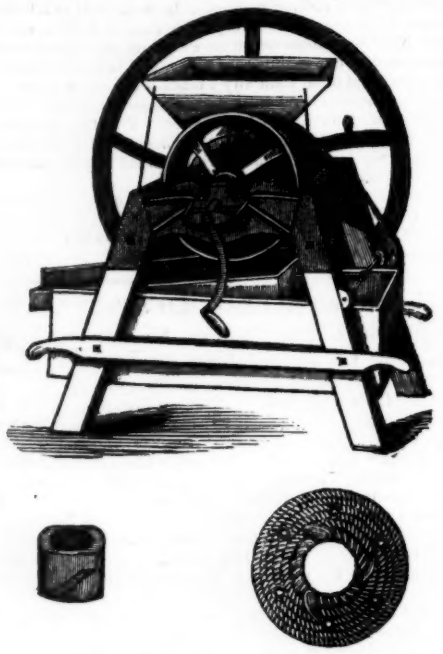
PORTABLE TUBULAR STEAM GENERATOR.

The undersigned *successors to the late firm of Bentley, Randall & Co.* are manufacturing, and have constantly on hand a full assortment of the above Boilers, which within the last few months have undergone many improvements: we can now with confidence recommend them for simplicity, strength, durability, economy in fuel, time, labor and room, to surpass any other Steam Generator now in use. They are equally well adapted to the Agriculturist for cooking food for cattle and hogs, the Dyer, Hatter and Tanner for heating liquors, to Manufacturers (both Cotton and Woollen) for heating their mills, boiling sizing, heating cylinders, &c., to Pork Butchers for heating water for scalding hogs and for *rendering lard*, to Tallow Chandlers for melting tallow by circulation of hot water (in a jacket,) to Public Houses and Institutions for cooking, washing and *soap making*, and for many other purposes, for all of which they are now in *successful* operation; the economy in fuel is almost incredible; we guarantee under all circumstances a saving of *two thirds*, and in many instances *fully three fourths*—numerous certificates from the very best of authority can be produced to substantiate the fact. We had the pleasure of receiving the premium for the best Steam Apparatus at the Agricultural Fair held at Govanstown in October 1843.

Manufactory, McCausland's old Brewery, Holliday st. near Pleasant st., Baltimore, Md.

Dec. 6. tf RANDALL & CO.

R. SINCLA, JR. & CO'S. PATENT CORN MILL.



The above cut represents Sinclair & Co's. new Corn Mill, which is admirably adapted for plantation use, or as a Maryland planter says of them, "*every planter having this useful machine becomes his own miller.* They grind coarse or fine meal with equal facility, perfection and despatch, at the rate of 2½ or 3 bushels per hour.

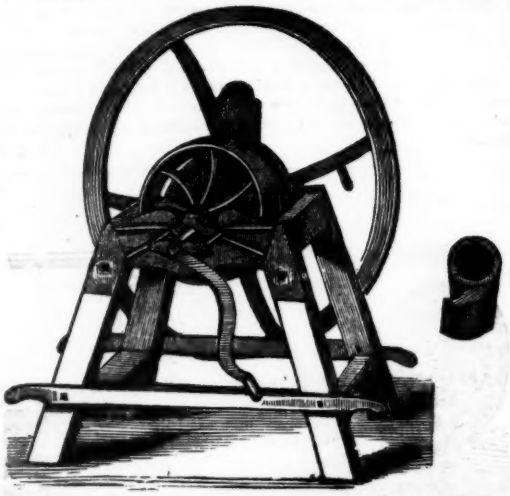
When the screen is attached (as *shewn in the centre* of the cut) and fine meal is required to be ground, it will be necessary to drive the Mill by horse-power, (say 2 horses) coarse meal for horses may be ground by two men with good success.

The grinding plates, which are made of the hardest composition metal will last about two years without renewing, after they are worn smooth new ones may be put on without difficulty. A feeder is attached to the axle which is intended to pass the grain into the plates at regular intervals. This feeder is important and obviates the difficulty and objection to Cast Iron Mills generally.

Price, with one set extra plates, $40.

☞The feeder and grinding plate (as above) are represented separate from the Mill. No 8

SINCLAIR, JR. & CO'S. CORN & COB CRUSHER.



The above cut represents Sinclair & Co's. Corn and Cob Crusher, which is admirably adapted for plantation use, the construction is very simple, compact, and not easily put out of order. The grinding plates are made of the hardest composition metal, which will last from two to three years. After they are worn smooth new plates may be substituted without difficulty; on the axle is attached a strong spiral knife, which cuts the cob in small pieces, preparatory to entering the plates.

Two horses will crush and grind 8 bushels per hour, fine enough for feeding to cattle. Two men can work this machine with good success.

Price with one sett extra plates, $30. The materials used and the performance of the above, is expressly guaranteed.

R. SINCLAIR, Jr. & Co.
62 Light street.

☞The knife (as above), the grinding plates similar to that of the Corn Mill. no 20

WHITE TURKIES.

I have for sale, two or three pairs of the pure White Turkies, which will be sold low if immediately applied for.

Also, several kinds of Fancy Fowls.

JAMES MURRAY'S
PREMIUM CORN AND COB CRUSHERS.

These already celebrated machines have obtained the premium by a fair trial against the other Crushers exhibited at the Fair held at Govanstown, Balt. co. Md. Oct. 18th, 19th and 20th, 1843, and the increased demand enables the patentee to give further inducements to purchasers by fitting an extra pair of grinders to each machine without extra charge. Prices $25, 30, 35, 40, 45.

ALSO, small MILLS, which received a certificate of merit, for $15.

I have also superior CUTTING BOXES, such as will bear inspection by either farmers or mechanics.

Also, Horse Powers, Mills, Corn Shellers, Mill and Carry-log Screws, small Steam Engines, Turning Lathes, &c. &c.

Also, a second hand Steam Engine, 16 horse power, and the works for two Saw Mills.

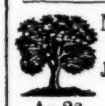
Any kind of Machine, Model or Mill-work built to order, and all mills planned and erected by the subscriber, warranted to operate well.

☞Orders can be left with J. F. Callan, Washington, D. C.; S. Sands, Farmer office; or the subscriber,

Mr. Abner Linthcum, jr., and all Machinests are invited to a fair trial of Grinding against my Corn and Cob Crushers, and if I do not do more work, taking the power, quantity, and quality into consideration, I will give them my machine gratice.

Patent Rights for sale by the subsbriber.

no 8 JAS. MURRAY, Millwright, Baltimore.



MANGELWURZEL AND FRENCH SUGAR BEET SEED,

Just received and for sale by

ROBT. SINCLAIR JR. & CO.
Ap 22 Seedsmen, No. 60 Light st.

CLEAZY'S IMPROVED SELF-SHARPENING PLOUGH.

J. S. EASTMAN, Pratt street, a little west of the Baltimore & Ohio rail road Depot, would invite public attention to this superior implement, both as to its simplicity, cheayness and good work with light draft. He will furnish patterns to manufacturess living out of this state on reasonable terms. may 1

GUANO—*Farmers, Now's your time.*

The subscriber has received 80 sacks of GUANO, which he will sell at $3¼ a hundred if immediately applied for.

D. B. DICKINSON,
Corner of Bond and Lombard sts. or,
LEWIS GROSS, Jr.
july 24 No. 85 Smith's wharf

THE BOMMER MANURE METHOD.

We wish to afford every facility to the introduction of this method, as the better it is known the higher it will be esteemed. If farmers who are living in a neigborhood will club together, we will offer them the following inducements to purchase, viz. To any club of Five ordering the method to one address, we will make a deduction of 15 per cent. To a Club of Ten, 20 per cent. reduction, and to larger clubs, a still larger discount upon our established rates for single methods, which are as follows:

For a garden up to 20 acres,	$6
" 100 acres arable land,	10
" 200 " "	15
" 300 " "	18
" 400 " "	20
Unlimited number of acres,	25

☞Purchasers of a smaller right can at any time increase it by paying the difference in price. ABBETT & CO.

Southern proprietors of the Patent Right,
at Parsons & Preston's Book Store, adjoining the Rail Road Depot
mh 13 tf in Pratt street, Baltimore.

☞Those who find it more convenient, can leave their orders with S. Sands, at the office of the *American Farmer*, who will promptly attend thereto. mh 13

MURRAY'S CORN & COB CRUSHERS & GRINDERS.

The subscriber having so simplified the construction of the Machine, and having at the same time added to its efficiency, both for the quantity and quality of its work, is now enabled to sell for $25 Crushers of the capacity of cylinder heretofore sold at 40 dollars—Hand Crushers for 20 dollars—either with or without self-feeders. Any other machines made to order. Also, Repairs of all kinds of agricultural implements. These machines can be seen in operation opposite the Willow Grove Farm of Mr. J. Donnell.

fe 14 WM. MURRAY.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

J. S. EASTMAN, at No. 36 West Pratt st. about half a square west of the Baltimore and Ohio rail road depot, has on hand a great variety of Plows and Plow Castings, and other Farming Implements at wholesale and retail, as follows, viz. his newly patented Cleasy self-sharpening plows of 7 different sizes, (and one large left hand do) he has many testimonies to show the superior merits of this implement.

Also—Gideon Davis' improved ploughs, of all sizes, wrought and cast shares, do do. Connecticut improved, a superior article for light soil; Evans' reverse point ploughs, with cast shares only; Wyman's No. O. self-sharpeners, various bar-share and coulter ploughs and superior side ploughs, etc. etc. Also, corn and tobacco Cultivators, wheat fans, cylindrical straw cutters of various sizes, a superior article; lime carts, superior Pennsylvania made grain Cradles; small Burrstone Mills for driving by horse power or steam; Corn Shellers, Threshing Machines (and horse-powers for two or four horses) made very durable and to thresh clean. Bachelder's and Osgood's patent corn planters, etc. with a great variety of their implements made of the best materials and in the best manner. As he above are sold at reduce drices to suit the times. may 1